



Demographic & Economic Information for  
**Little Shell  
Chippewa Tribe**



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# Little Shell Chippewa Tribe

The Little Shell Chippewa Tribe is recognized by the State of Montana and is currently pending federal recognition. The Little Shell Tribe has no designated land base in Montana, but as a tribal people, they generally populate and live in north central Montana in the Great Falls, Browning, Havre, and Malta areas. Their tribal headquarters is currently located in Great Falls, Montana. The smallest tribe in Montana, their tribal enrollment total for 2006 is 4,500.

The tribe is named for Chief Little Shell (Aissance), the last lineal Chief of the Pembina Chippewa people, who are the ancestors of the Little Shell people. The tribe signed treaties and agreements with the U.S. Government ceding millions of acres of land. Chief Little Shell finally refused to sign one last treaty giving up 10 million acres of land. The government then selected a council that would sign the treaty. Consequently, Little Shell and his followers were excluded from the dealings and from the tribal rolls. They subsequently returned to their traditional buffalo hunting territory in North Central Montana. As time went by, the followers of Chief Little Shell became a group of Chippewa without a home. They were known eventually as the "landless Indians." They moved from reservation to reservation, even suffering a deportation effort to Canada by the U.S. Government. The "landless" Little Shell settled around communities along the Hi-Line of Northern Montana and the east slope of the Rocky Mountains. The people are self-reliant and can be found in every level of employment.

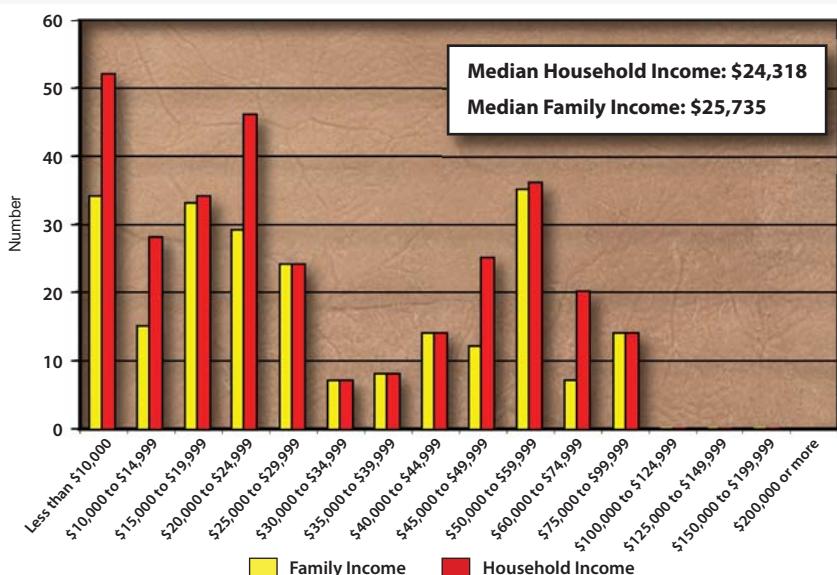
The Little Shell Chippewa Tribe enjoys a positive working relationship with the State of Montana. The Tribe is in discussions with the State Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks to develop a possible management agreement for the Morony Dam Town Site in Cascade County to improve site use and employ several tribal members. Recently the tribe has been working with the Montana Department of Commerce to determine the economic development potential of 58 acres of wooded land it owns in Flathead County.

## Little Shell Chippewa Tribe - Occupation by Gender Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over

Occupation	Number
<b>Male:</b>	179
Management, professional, and related occupations	39
Service occupations	53
Sales and office occupations	21
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	25
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	41
<b>Female:</b>	202
Management, professional, and related occupations	87
Service occupations	41
Sales and office occupations	44
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	6
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	24

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Little Shell Chippewa Tribe - Distribution of Income by Family and Household from Census 2000



**Household Income:** This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income.

**Family Income:** In compiling statistics on family income, the incomes of all members 15 years old and over related to the householder are summed and treated as a single amount.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Little Shell Chippewa Tribe - Educational Attainment Population 25 Years and Older

Educational Attainment	Percentage of Population
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	34.1%
Associate Degree	4.5%
Bachelor's Degree	8.4%
Master's Degree	0.0%

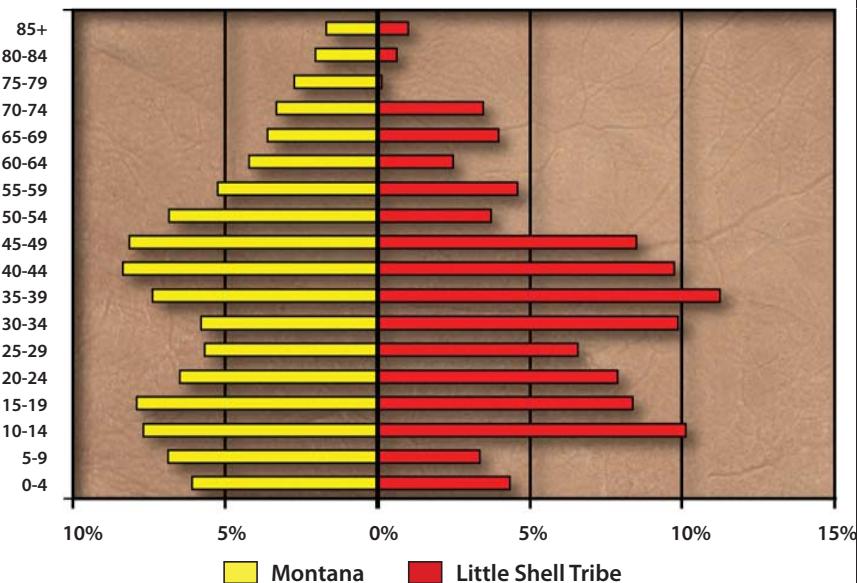
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Little Shell Chippewa Tribe - Labor Force Statistics

Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemp. Rate	
U.S. Census Bureau	2000	426	381	45	10.6%

## Little Shell Chippewa Tribe - Population Pyramid

Percent of Total Tribal Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Owner and Renter Occupied Housing Units

Housing	Tribe
Owner Occupied	47.7%
Renter Occupied	52.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Little Shell Chippewa Tribe Information



Tribal Council President  
John Sinclair

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